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LETTER DATED 17 AUGUST 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a note showing the impact of the implementation of Security Council resolution 748 (1992) on the light industries sector.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Ahmed ELHOUDERI
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Impact of the implementation of Security Council resolution 748 (1992) on the light industries sector

The General People's Committee for Light Industries has made strenuous efforts to adopt a series of preventive measures in an earnest attempt to mitigate the adverse impact of the implementation of Security Council resolution 748 (1992). The complications caused by the resolution have had evident repercussions on manufacturing activity in the Great Jamahiriya, particularly on levels of production and on the continued execution of those industrial projects that were at the stage of final installation of new production lines and imminent start up.

The implementation of the resolution has had an adverse impact on the production process owing to the depletion of factory inventories of those raw materials primarily imported by air and because it has been impossible for technicians and experts to reach the Jamahiriya in the framework of technical assistance to engage in maintenance and operation activities. One of the effects of the implementation of the resolution has even been that a number of technicians and experts have left their places of work and decided to leave the Jamahiriya and return to their home countries on numerous grounds.

The resolution has also caused evident disruption in the programmes and activities that our industrial companies conduct with their counterparts in world-wide industrial companies because of the aerial embargo and because it is not possible to conduct meetings and maintain direct contacts. This has had a negative impact on the production process.

The Western propaganda that has accompanied the implementation of the resolution has had a prominent role in influencing major industrial companies and the contractors executing our industrial projects to adopt, on the basis of flimsy excuses, a negative attitude towards the continued fulfilment of ongoing obligations under contracts concluded with them. The damage caused by the implementation of the resolution to the execution of industrial projects can be summarized as follows:

I. Projects under execution

1. Tajura' heater-unit project

The project has the goal of producing 150,000 heaters a year. Civil engineering work has been completed, and machinery has been imported. The contractor has postponed the start of installation work in view of the delayed arrival of technicians from abroad.

2. Plastic-tubing plant (Bint Bih-Al-Shararrah Municipality)

This project has the goal of producing plastic pipes of various sizes. The machinery and equipment needed for the plant has been imported and civil engineering works have been completed. The project has come to a halt because technicians and specialists on the installation of machinery and equipment have been unable to come.

3. Floor-covering project at Misratah

The project has the goal of producing 1 million metres of floor-covering a year. Civil engineering works for the project have been completed and machinery has been delivered. The installation schedule has been delayed because of the postponed arrival of technicians in view of the difficulties encountered by companies under contract in sending their technicians to install machinery and equipment for the project.

II. Projects under study

1. Plant for medical materials

2. Plant for industrial cleaning agents

3. Project for medical and industrial gases

4. Plants for concrete beams

5. Electric-fan plant

6. Building materials plants

The projects have encountered a number of obstacles, as exemplified by the following:

(a) A number of foreign companies are unable to submit their bids for the execution of these projects.

(b) It is difficult to establish contact with contractors for negotiations and the discussion of project implementation.

(c) It is difficult or impossible to meet with representatives of companies on matters relating to the mode of execution of certain contracts.

III. Research and international participation

The sector has not been able to hold fairs for industrial joint ventures, and they have been postponed a number of times because of the embargo. Research workers, inventors and experts have also encountered difficulty in participating in international fairs and conferences and in seminars on the sector because of the travel and communications involved. Delivery of the

relevant specialized technical publications has also been delayed and some have ceased arriving. Use had been made of such publications in developing plants, improving production and acquiring knowledge of new techniques in the industrialized countries in various fields relating to the sector.

The damage caused to the sector in general can be summarized as follows:

1. A number of technical assistance contracts concluded with foreign companies have not been implemented because of the aversion of the technical teams belonging to those companies to travel to the Jamahiriya in the circumstances created by the embargo. This has caused a number of plants to cease production.

2. A number of projects for whose installation and implementation contracts had been concluded have been left unfinished because of the failure of teams under contract for installation to come to the Jamahiriya at the scheduled time. This has led to the postponement of production in these plants and thus to the suspension of the plan for self-sufficiency in basic goods. There is also the matter of the financial obligations that may be incurred by the failure to fulfil these contracts at the time stipulated.

3. Companies have been unable to send representatives to inspect the items imported from ports of shipment with the required dispatch and at the scheduled time. The arrival of batches of samples of raw materials has been delayed, which has had a negative impact on the flow of the raw materials and production inputs imported for the plants.

4. There has been delay in the arrival of urgently needed spare parts whose importation requires the use of air transport. This causes sudden breakdowns, which have led to extended unforeseen stoppages at plants.